

CLAIMS

We claim:

5 1. A method for using workflows, comprising the steps of:
associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain
identifies a portion of said data structure;
receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data structure; and
10 performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated
with a first domain that includes a target of said request.

15 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first
domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in
said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first
domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

20 3. A method according to claim 2, wherein:
said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows
associated with said target.

25 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request includes an identification of said target;
said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that
perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of
one more workflows includes said first workflow.

30 5. A method according to claim 4, wherein:
said request is a request to delete said target.

6. A method according to claim 4, wherein:
said request is a request to modify said target.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
5 said request includes an identification of said target; and
said step of performing includes the steps of:

identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and
are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows
includes said first workflow,

10 reporting said set of one more workflows,
receiving a selection of said first workflow, and
performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
15 said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task,
identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, and receiving a
selection of said first workflow.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
20 said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an
integrated identity and access system.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is for self-registration.

25 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is from a parent workflow; and
said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

30 12. A method according to claim 1, wherein:

5 said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and
each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and
additional entries below said entry.

10 5 13. A method according to claim 12, wherein:
said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

15 10 14. One or more processor readable storage devices having processor
readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor
readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method
comprising the steps of:

20 15 associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain
identifies a portion of said data;

25 15 receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data structure; and
15 performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated
with a first domain that includes a target of said request.

30 20 15. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
14, wherein:

35 25 said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first
domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in
said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first
domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

40 25 16. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
15, wherein:

45 30 said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows
associated with said target.

17. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
14, wherein:

 said request includes an identification of said target;

5 said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that
 perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of
 one more workflows includes said first workflow.

18. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
14, wherein:

10 said request includes an identification of said target; and

 said step of performing includes the steps of:

 identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and
 are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows
 includes said first workflow,

15 reporting said set of one more workflows,

 receiving a selection of said first workflow, and

 performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

19. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim

20 14, wherein:

 said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task, and
 identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, receiving a
 selection of said first workflow.

25 20. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim

 14, wherein:

 said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an
 integrated identity and access system.

21. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
14, wherein:

 said request is from a parent workflow; and
 said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

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22. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
14, wherein:

 said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and
 each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and
10 additional entries below said entry.

23. One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim
22, wherein:

 said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

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24. An apparatus that uses workflows, comprising:

 a communication interface;

 one or more processor in communication with said communication interface,
said one or more processors perform a method comprising the steps of:

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 associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain
identifies a portion of said data,

 receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data
structure, and

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 performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is
associated with a first domain that includes a target of said request.

25. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

 said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first
domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in

said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

26. An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein:

5 said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target and entries in said hierarchical data structure that are above said target.

10 27. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target;

15 said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow.

20 28. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target; and

said step of performing includes the steps of:

identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow,

reporting said set of one more workflows,
receiving a selection of said first workflow, and
performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

25 29. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task, and identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, receiving a selection of said first workflow.

30 30. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said one or more processors are part of an integrated identity and access system.

31. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

5 said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

32. An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

10 said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and

each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and additional entries below said entry.

33. An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein:

15 said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

TODAY'S DATE IS FEB 10